

Shavuot

Night of Torah, Transformation and New Traditions

Plan for an evening of spirituality, fellowship, study and fun as we spend the night (and we mean, the night!) celebrating and studying on Shavuot. The third of the three pilgrimage festivals on our annual calendar, Shavuot falls this year on Saturday evening, June 6. This holiday commemorates the revelation of the Torah at Mt. Sinai, and CSZ observes this holiday in our own special fashion, with food, dance, music, worship and study.

The evening will begin with a potluck dinner in the oneg room, beginning at 8 pm. Dairy foods are traditional; so please bring a vegetarian dish to share. The synagogue will provide beverages and supplies. The festival service and Torah reading will begin at 9 pm.

The evening will continue with Torah study. CSZ members, including Yehuda Hyman, Phyllis Mintzer, Rabbi Nancy Flam, Rabbi Kahn, and Rabbi Eric Weiss, will lead study, discussion, movement and music through the course of the evening. In accordance with ancient mystical practice, we will make an effort to stay up all night, and conclude our celebration with a dawn festival service on Kite Hill. You are welcome to participate in any part or the entirety of our observance—it promises to be a challenging and fulfilling celebration.

Forward Hiatus

Remember, the Newsletter Committee takes a well-earned rest during the summer and publishes a combined July–August issue. So if you have any submission that needs to be printed before the September issue, get it to the office by the June 8 Va'ad meeting. (Make sure it's typed and double-spaced.)

Show Your Colors

It's that time again! The San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade takes place on June 28, and yes, Sha'ar Zahav will be marching. This is your chance to wear your CSZ T-shirt (available from the office or gift shop), and show the world who we are (and how lovely our insignia is!).

Join those who have marched in past years, as we sing, dance, and celebrate our way down Market Street, ending up at our Civic Center booth where we will sell T-shirts, cookbooks, answer questions, and dispense information.

As of this writing, we have not decided where to gather to march, but we will announce the location soon at a Friday evening service. You are invited to meet early in the morning to begin the parade or, for you late sleep-

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Contract Extended

The Va'ad is pleased to announce that the congregation and Rabbi Yoel Kahn have agreed to extend their relationship for five years. The Va'ad offered, and the rabbi accepted a five-year contract of employment. This contract is the longest in our history and reflects both the confidence of the board in the rabbi, and the rabbi's commitment to the congregation.

It is customary in long-term relationships between rabbis and congregations that the rabbi be afforded a sabbatical every seven years or so. The purpose of the sabbatical is to encourage the rabbi in his scholarly, spiritual and community-building endeavors. As Rabbi Kahn has now been with us for seven years, he will be taking the first part of a well-deserved six-month sabbatical next spring. In order to cause

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Passing of the Royal Newsletter Sceptre, from Howard Blechman (l.) to Lane Schickler (outgoing and incoming Newsletter Committee chairs, respectively). PHOTO BY SHELLEY ADLER

Do Jews Really Always Vote?

Individual Jews and the organized Jewish community in the United States have a greater role and influence in the political life of this country than any other group of Jews in history have had outside the Land of Israel. The major source of this power is the perception that "All Jews always vote." The truth is far from this—according to the Synagogue Council of America, close to one million American Jews are not registered to vote. Our ability to influence both the discussion and the policies of the nation may be eroded if the present declining trend in voting by Jews continues.

Imagine if 100 percent of gay and lesbian citizens, their families, friends and supporters voted and identified themselves to poll takers and candidates as especially concerned about our agenda. The political power of our communities can only be strengthened by our active, collective and "out" participation in the electoral system. Recent press reports about the political goals of the religious right should further galvanize us to mobilize our own resources to safeguard the freedoms and security for which we have fought.

I do not mean to suggest that all Jews or all gay people should or do think and vote alike; I have no illusion or no desire for such uniformity. Most of us do agree,

though, on the broad outlines in which direction our domestic and foreign policy should be directed. Our common histories, our shared experiences and spiritual traditions shape the values which influence our political choices. While none of the candidates may be our ideal leader, let us not pretend that there are no differences between them.

The significance of voting is not limited to these pragmatic reasons—important as they may be. However flawed the electoral process, consider the alternatives. Our system of government is founded on faith in the civic commitment of each citizen. This faith is parallel to our Reform Jewish commitment to the empowerment and covenant commitment of each Jew. In both cases, the noble vision begins to fail when individuals abdicate their responsibility to participate fully in the community and its decision-making process.

A well-known legend teaches that at each and every moment, the fate of the world may hang in the balance—dependent on one person's decision to fulfill a *mitzvah*. In a democracy, voting is a *mitzvah*. Our own fate, the fate of our community, and our nation depend on our actions.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Women's Chavurah

Havdalah/Potluck

The next Havdalah/Potluck will be held in the East Bay, at the home of Alita Rosenfeld and Kate Sharp, on Saturday, June 20, at 7 pm.

We will share a delectable potluck spread and discuss plans for the summer and fall—a real mixed bag: swimming, dancing, giving blood—some fun! As darkness falls, we will celebrate Havdalah, using a beautiful women's liturgy introduced at our April potluck by Judith Linzer.

Join us as we kick off summer. 1400 McGee is in North Berkeley, at the corner of Rose, three blocks above Sacramento and two blocks south of Hopkins. For other directions, call Kate or Alita at (510) 526-2394. If your last name begins with A-H, please bring a side dish; I-P, a dessert; and Q-Z, a main dish. See you on June 20.

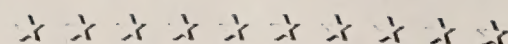
Brunch Does Dessert

This month's Kaiser Hospital gathering will be a post-parade Dessert Party instead of a brunch. Due to the Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade, also taking place on June 28, the Kaiser Brunch committee will be serving dessert to the AIDS patients, their caregivers and friends at 3:30 pm at Kaiser Hospital.

Colors

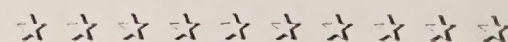
Continued from page 1
ins, to jump in anywhere along the parade route. You'll be welcome either way.

For more information, to volunteer to staff our booth, or to be a contingent monitor, call Stephan at 665-4404, or Mark in the office.



Anniversaries

- 9 Cheryl Mann & Bree Myer
- 12 Irene Ogus & Rosalinda del Moral
- 13 Dan Bellm & Yoel Kahn
- 19 Lisa Brand & Betsy Levine
- 21 Debbi Jacobs-Levine & Joel Levine
- 21 Lolma Olson & Beth Reed
- 24 Lyssa Friedman & Daphne Stuart
- 24 Judy Macks & Iani Simpson
- 30 Kate Sharp & Alita Rosenfeld



The Jewish Gaily Forward is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$18/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Lane Schickler (chair), Shelley Adler, Howard Blechman, Liz Goodman, Richard Inlander, Robin Leonard, Carolyn Pines, and Ivan Vincente, (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger (photographer), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Alison Cohen, Alex Ingersoll, Merry Luskin, Sam Thal, Donna Rabinowitz, Lane Schickler, Eli Weinstein, Sylvia Weisenberg, and Ron Wilmot (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

Claudia Reflects...

Soon the first year of my term of office will be over. It is also the first year that we have had two Vice-Presidents. Our Administrative Vice-President, Claudia Bernard, will be "retiring" from office, after making lasting contributions in defining the role of this new office, providing leadership as Chair of the Personnel Committee, giving tremendous support to me on the Va'ad and in promoting the smooth functioning of the synagogue. I wanted her to have this chance to share with you her reflections on this past year and her unique relationship with our synagogue.

This month marks the end of my term as Sha'ar Zahav's first Administrative Vice President. It's been an honor to serve the congregation in this capacity. But being the congregation's first Administrative V.P. is not the only unique aspect of my tenure as an officer. I believe I am one of two non-gay people ever to serve as an officer of the congregation. (The other, I am informed, is a bisexual woman who served as one of the synagogue's very early co-leaders.) As many of you know, I started out my CSZ life, and my adult life for that matter, as a lesbian. Then, to my surprise, two and a half years ago I fell in love with a man, to whom I am now married. Not surprisingly, this change in my sexual preference forced a redefinition of my relationship to the lesbian and gay communities of which I had been a part for over 15 years.

By the time I became involved with my husband, Howard, CSZ had already become a community to me and I did not want to lose it. On the other hand, I no longer fit in the same way as I had, and I did not want to pretend that I hadn't changed. I needed to "come out." I was very nervous. I feared that my very presence would be seen as a betrayal. Because so many lesbians and gay men grew up isolated and alone, I worried that my change would stimulate a fear that one day, in fact, they would again be alone and isolated. And I was sure that the pain and fury of seeing a former lesbian embrace the privileges a heterosexual relationship affords would cloud the warm feelings of even my closest friends.

It was with great relief that I discovered my fears were *not* realized. People in this congregation have been loving, accepting and understanding. I think that despite whatever pain and confusion my change may have caused, the members, leaders, staff and rabbi of this congregation respected my choice to follow my heart, and supported me in my journey. This ability to respond from the heart is one of CSZ's greatest collective strengths, and I thank you all for this wonderful gift.

As I leave my year as an officer and my second year on the Va'ad, I want to thank you for this opportunity to grow. Though I can't say that I always loved sitting through seemingly endless meetings or dealing with some of the drearier administrative tasks that fell my way, I loved the opportunity to be a vital part of this wonderful congregation. I love the opportunity you all gave me to stay connected to the lesbian and gay community that has nurtured me for my entire adult life. And I love the sense of wholeness I've gained from having my relationship with Howard exist within the context of this connection. I look forward to developing new and different ways of growing with CSZ in the coming years.

My status as a fairly visible non-gay person in the congregation raises the question of what happens if there are more of me? Is the congregation's acceptance of me premised on my status as a relative novelty? Or are we at a sufficiently confident point in our development that we can welcome formerly gay, bisexual and straight people into membership and leadership with the same openness with which you welcomed me? I don't mean to oversimplify the issue by the way I framed the question, but I do see the answer to the acceptance issue as premised largely on the strength of, and our confidence in, our collective identity. The more we know and respect who we are, the less we feel threatened by the presence of those who are different. On the other hand, one of CSZ's greatest strengths is as a sanctuary from oppression and bigotry. As we attract more non-gay members (which we are doing), are we afraid that our safe ha-

ven will disappear? Or may we envision a synagogue where all members—gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, formerly-gay, confused, and unidentified—can build a community that supports each of us in our unique identities, loves, and goals, actively fights gay oppression, sexism and bigotry, and welcomes all who wish to love and worship in such an environment? That certainly is my goal. We have been a model for the country since our inception. Let's continue this tradition of great leadership.

Future Children

In a continuing effort to keep up with the baby boom at Sha'ar Zahav, president Allan Gold has created a task force to present children's programming proposals to the annual leadership Advance this summer. The Children's Programming Task Force is currently surveying the needs of the congregation and is soliciting input from all interested members.

Within the framework of CSZ's Long Range Plan, specific proposals will be drafted based on the interests and needs expressed by parents and concerned members. The task force has developed a questionnaire which is being sent to all CSZ parents. In an unusual outreach effort, every family is receiving an extra survey to distribute to a friend who is considering joining the congregation or anticipating becoming a parent. This will enable our programming to meet the needs of our current constituency and also project into the future—children are very much a growing segment of the congregation.

Input is also welcome from members who are not parents; they are invited to contact any of the task force members: Pam Erwin, Rena Frantz, Jonathan Goldman, Ida Kuluk, Eileen Levy, and Lane Schickler. (Jonathan is particularly interested in the suggestions of non-parents.) Telephone numbers for task force members and further information can be obtained through the office.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

General Fund

We encourage donations to the General Fund in particular, since such donations can be used for any synagogue purpose.

Judy Schwartz and Carolyn Pines, in honor of the new home purchases of Lisa Katz and Sharon Heath, Susan Unger and Pam Erwin, and Ron Lezell

Betty Kalis, in honor of Jerry Rosenstein

Anonymous, in honor of Michael Bettinger's photography

Betty Kalis, in honor of Marion Trentman's birthday

Donald Pretari, in memory of Marvin Katz

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun's 10th anniversary

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of the birth of Sam Blumenthal, nephew of Eric and Aaron Cooper-Keitel

Steve Elman and Tom Holt, in honor of Nathan Robinson and Carolyn Pines for putting on a great Purim celebration

Lee Morow, in memory of George Ash
Jerry Rosenstein

Mauri Schwartz, in honor of a great
Passover Seder

Prayerbook Fund

Randy Alfred, in memory of Richard Gomez Pacheco

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Cherie Pies, in memory of Lynn Campbell

Rose Katz, in appreciation of Rabbi Kahn

Social Action Fund

Janice Gould Macomber, in memory of Cheryl Orvis and in honor of Janice's 50th birthday

Stein/Chesir Music Fund

Diane and Carl Polesky, in honor of David Stein's 50th birthday

Michael Friedland, in honor of David Stein and Daniel Chesir's 50th birthdays

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of David Stein and Daniel Chesir's 50th birthdays

Allan Berenstein, in honor of David Stein and Daniel Chesir's 50th birthdays

Eric, Aaron and Shawn Cooper-Keitel, in honor of David Stein and Daniel Chesir's 50th birthdays

Michael Zimmerman, in honor of David Stein and Daniel Chesir's 50th birthdays

Al Baum, in honor of David Stein and Daniel Chesir's 50th birthdays

Saralyn and Harvey Lasner, in honor of David Stein's 50th birthday

Naches

To Allan Berenstein on the birth of his first grandson, Michael Paul Berenstein.

To Scott Mezistrano, on his move to Washington, DC, embarking on a new life with Jeff Kaye.

To Ben Weinberg, who received his notary commission from the State of California.

To former CSZ office manager Jenny Helbraun, who received her masters degree in Jewish studies.

To Katie Gulley and Roslyn Fuerman, on the occasion of Katie's Bat Mitzvah.

To Lane Schickler, who received special recognition from Jewish Family and Children's Services for outstanding volunteerism.

To Liz Goodman, on her new job in the economics division of Wells Fargo Bank.

To Spark a Fire

On June 9, Jewish Bay Area filmmaker Melissa Shore and San Francisco Board of Supervisors member and CSZ member Roberta Achtenberg invite you to attend two benefits for a video-in-progress, *To Spark A Fire*, on the blossoming gay and lesbian rights movement in the (former) Soviet Union. Last July, Melissa took part in the First International Gay & Lesbian Symposium and Film Festival in Russia, sponsored by the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

The conference brought together over 2,000 Soviets and more than 100 gay and lesbian activists from the United States, Canada, New Zealand, and Western and Eastern Europe. It served as an international forum to address gay and lesbian human rights issues on a global scale. Ms. Shore documented this historic event, capturing the stories of the symposium's brave participants. *To Spark A Fire* recounts the events associated with the conference, including visits to an AIDS ward and a prison, condom distributions, and demonstrations in the streets of Moscow and St. Petersburg. The video addresses anti-semitism and gay bashing, along with other forms of oppression prevalent in both the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America.

Roberta Achtenberg, Congresswoman Barbara Boxer, former Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Academy-award winning filmmaker and CSZ member Debra Chasnoff, and San Francisco School Board member and comic Tom Ammiano invite you to a cocktail party to benefit the working video from 6-8:30 pm on Tuesday, June 9 at 3650 21 St. (between Church & Sanchez) in San Francisco. A ten-minute clip of the working video will be presented, and singer Connie Champagne will entertain.

The party continues at the Box (The Kennel Club) at 628 Divisadero from 8:30 pm on, where DJ Page Hodel and CSZ member and stand-up comic Lisa Geduldig will host a night of comedy and dance with comics Danny Williams and Margaret Cho, the Box dancers, Hip Hop dancers, Jennifer & Paolo, and Russian rap. A clip of the working video will also be shown.

Cocktail party and Box event: \$100 suggested donation. RSVP at 510/234-4045. Comedy and dancing event: \$10 in advance/\$12 at the door. Advance tickets available at A Different Light Bookstore on Castro Street or by calling 510/234-4045. Tax-deductible contributions may be written out to Film Arts Foundation and sent c/o: LightRed Productions, 2431 Delmer St., Oakland, CA 94602.

Social Action Committee

Spring Update

Our warm clothes drive for the homeless goes on thanks to the continuing active generosity of our congregation. Spring is here, but that won't put an end to the needs. Remember, the coldest winter Mark Twin ever spent was a summer in San Francisco—and he wasn't homeless. So keep those donations coming in.

Five members of the Social Action Committee served and socialized at the Tenderloin Oneg last January. This was a Friday afternoon kosher meal, arranged by the Jewish Family and Children's Services for elderly Jews. The people who came, while not all elderly and not all Jewish, were good company. We therefore plan to repeat the experience.

Thanks to everyone who marched under the CSZ banner in the Pro-Choice March and Rally for Women's Lives on March 29. We were visibly Jewish, visibly gay, visibly pro-woman—and visibly unafraid of those who hate us all three ways.

Those who weren't able to attend always help defend reproductive rights by writing to legislators and newspapers.

We have a short list of people needing, or willing to offer, rides to Friday night services from various parts of the Bay Area. We can also connect people interested in carpooling there. Call Stanley at 585-3477.

The next Social Action Committee meeting will be at 7 pm on Wednesday, June 3, at the synagogue (probably upstairs in the library.) New members are always appreciated and welcome.

—Nina Wouk

Contract

Continued from page 1

as few disruptions to the congregation as possible, the rabbi will take three months of the sabbatical in the spring of 1993, and three months in a future year. The Va'ad and the officers will do everything we can to minimize the impact of the rabbi's absence on each

of you. We look forward to partaking of the rabbi's growth and enlightenment, and to a mutual future of support and productivity.

Amateur Photographers Alert

Did you know that the *Forward* has an official photographer, Michael Bettinger? He is frequently at our CSZ functions snapping away. Many photos are also submitted each month from other members. These are greatly appreciated, and enhance the issues. All photographers should be aware that some of our members may be camera shy for a variety of reasons. Before sending a photo to the *Forward*, please make an effort to ask those you have snapped if they want their 15 minutes of fame at this time. Please identify those captured and write their names on the back of the photo or on an attachment. (Do not place a paper clip directly on photo surface.)

Classifieds

MOVING TRAUMA? We specialize in packing kitchens, fine china, glass, art, and antiques. Superb care, work, references. Residential/commercial. Free binding estimate. Cardinal Packing 759-5638.

HAIRCUTS! Sick? Stuck at home? Call Shelley (415) 598-9300 for appointments in your home.

That's Entertainment!

Comedy ... Drama ... Literary Readings ... Talent ... Dancing ... Technical Skills ... Singing ... Fun ... Modest Start ... CURTAIN GOING UP!!

After this years' *Megillah Madness* Purim spectacle—and discovering each other's talents—several cast members would like to try to gather (safety in numbers, you know) all those interested in a [cue: sound effects person, drum roll please] ... Drama Chavurah. Dramurah?

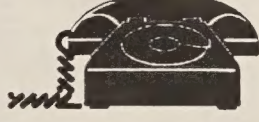
Who knows what talent and silliness/seriousness lurk in the hearts of Zashavniks? If you can draw this picture (er, sorry wrong talent search!) if you are interested, please contact Jonathan Goldman, 641-4231. An informal gathering or two will take place over the summer to figure this out. Everyone is welcome, and we will not discriminate against other species, that is, pets may be included. Did someone say talent show, oh no, Mr. Bill. Is this how Baby Snooks got started? So, even if you're only mildly interested, give Jonathan a call, but please—no Tarzan yells, (yet).

Legal help.

In contracts and leases,
wills and powers of attorney,
real estate, business law and litigation.

Goldstein & Gellman

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W



Call David Gellman
415/621-5600

100 Van Ness Avenue, 21st Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102

May Va'ad Report

Opening our meeting with a *d'var Torah*, Rabbi Kahn commented on how Judaism is sometimes out of step with the rest of the world—we think of High Holidays as being “early” or “late,” though of course they always fall on the same days of the Hebrew calendar. Similarly, while the world tends to commemorate birthdays, we commemorate *yahrzeits*. The world has “countdowns,” while we have a “count-up”—from Pesach to Shavuot, we count the days in ascending order. The principle of counting *up* to Shavuot is similar to the one we use on Chanukah, when each night we add a candle, symbolizing an increase in holiness. Our counting of the days between Passover and Shavuot also represents an ascent. Passover and Exodus from Egypt were not ends in and of themselves, but steps toward a higher vision, steps toward the covenant at Sinai. The Va'ad joined Rabbi Kahn in pronouncing the “count-up” for that evening, marking our approach to Shavuot and Sinai.

Membership chair Judy Schwartz then presented two individuals and one family for membership to the congregation, and the Va'ad accepted them.

Paul Cohen presented a proposal from the Leadership Development Committee to offer a series of study groups to enhance knowledge about the congregation, introduce new skills, and aid people in developing new approaches to problem solving. The proposed class will meet four or five times, for two-hour sessions. It will be aimed at potential CSZ leaders, new Va'ad members, and anyone interested in a deeper understanding of the synagogue and effective leadership. More information on this workshop series will be forthcoming in future issues of the *Forward*.

In his report, Rabbi Kahn thanked the people who helped in our congregational seder. Special thanks to Shirley Liberman, Scott Mezistrano, Susan Unger, Mark Pressler and the Haggadah Committee—Paul Quin, Frank Yellin, Susan Unger, and Irene Ogus.

Rabbi Kahn also raised the question of whether we should hold our congregational seder on the Saturday night of Passover every year, regardless of when the second night is. Several Va'ad members agreed that having the seder on Saturday night helped make it feel more relaxed; people did not feel they had to

rush off because of work the next morning. Others felt that it is important to keep with the tradition of having a seder on the second night; there was also concern about the strangeness of having a seder towards the end of Passover, as the Saturday night often is. The Va'ad agreed to revisit this issue and other related issues.

President Allan Gold asked the Va'ad to consider a policy question regarding the Leadership Advance—should spouses, significant others, and children be invited? While many members of the Va'ad felt reluctant to preclude from the Advance parents who cannot leave their children for the weekend, the consensus of the Va'ad was that the Advance is a “working weekend,” and that inviting spouses, significant others, and/or children would distract from its focus. Some suggested that we need to plan more social events (like the Swig weekend)

where families would be welcome, but that this is not the purpose of the Advance.

With these ideas in mind, many Va'ad members expressed the need for us to do everything possible to help parents attend the Advance—primarily by making childcare grants readily available. The Va'ad adopted Susan Unger's motion that the Va'ad identify the Advance as a weekend whose primary purpose is synagogue business, designed for the participation of invited synagogue leaders only. In defining the Advance in this way, the Va'ad recognizes the possible difficulty caused to parents, and agrees to provide childcare assistance to those participants who need it.

For years, fundraising has been a major topic of discussion at Va'ad meetings and at the Advance. In response to these discussions, Allan Gold sought to give direction to our fundraising efforts through the work of a fundraising task force. Susan Unger, Merry Luskin, Brett Trueman, and Claudia Bernard agreed to serve on this task force; they seek other non-Va'ad members to serve with them.

Allan also reported having received a request from a CSZ member to use our Social Action Mailing List to announce a fundraiser for a video project on gay and lesbian life in the countries of the former Soviet Union. The Va'ad discussed at some length the purposes and precedents of use of the mailing list. Some argued that we should give access to this list because the list has been given to other political causes, the request came from a member, the event would interest many of our members, and it is a gay cause worth supporting. Others argued that the program lacks any Jewish content, that we should make a distinction between a call to social action and fundraising, and that having the list used for fundraising might undermine our own attempts at fundraising. The consensus of the Va'ad was not to allow the use of the mailing list to publicize this event. A subcommittee of Rabbi Kahn and Lisa Katz agreed to come to the Va'ad with a clear policy recommendation for future use of the Social Action Mailing List.

Our meeting was adjourned with the singing of Oseh Shalom.

—Kathy Simon, Recorder

New Pushke Policy

A Quiet Drive

There are two schools of thought on the issue of the pushke baskets that we have been using to collect contributions at Friday night services. On the one hand, the money generated by passing the pushkes has been a regular and reliable vehicle for gathering the contributions which are necessary for our synagogue's operation. On the other hand, many members of the congregation find giving money and passing baskets of money inappropriate to Shabbat services. The Va'ad has decided to try to honor both of these positions with a new trial plan: We will discontinue using the baskets at services, but we ask everyone who gets the *Forward* to make a contribution to offset the loss of the “pushke” revenue. We would like to suggest a contribution of \$52, one dollar for every Friday night of the year. Obviously, greater or lesser amounts are welcome, too. We hope to raise enough revenue to meet our budget needs. Please use the donation envelope enclosed in this mailing to contribute to the synagogue, and help all worshipers feel comfortable at our services. Thanks!

• CSZ High Holidays 1992 •

Info Preview

It's barely summertime and yet it's not too soon to start thinking about the High Holidays, which begin this year with the call of the Shofar on *erev* Rosh Hashanah, September 27. (A complete High Holidays schedule appears on page 7.) Once again, most of these services will be held at the Unitarian Center (1187 Franklin at Geary). To ensure that CSZ members and their guests can be comfortably seated in the sanctuary, tickets will be required for *erev* Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre.

Keep in mind that tickets are not automatically sent to members but must be requested via the "ticket request form" that will appear in next month's Forward. CSZ members "in good standing" are eligible to receive High Holiday tickets (your 1991-92 dues pledge must be paid in full and at least the first installment of your 1992-93 dues pledge must also be paid).

In our continuing effort to strengthen CSZ's revenue base and as we did last year, we will suggest a donation of \$40-\$60 for each guest ticket, or \$18 for those with low incomes. No one will be refused a ticket due to an inability to contribute. The sanctuary has room for one guest per member, but we'll do our best to accommodate requests for more than one guest ticket once all members have had the chance to submit their requests.

As in the past, the chapel and the Starr King Room will carry the main service over loudspeakers, with volunteers officiating. Tickets will not be required for evening services in these overflow rooms. In addition, daytime services are open to all and no tickets will be necessary. Child care will be available at reasonable cost, and reservations will be required. Details will follow in next month's *Forward*.

Want To Participate?

In our synagogue's tradition of lay leadership, we invite members of the congregation to participate in High Holiday services—through reading in English or Hebrew, chanting Torah, or perhaps blowing the Shofar.

If you are interested in taking part in High Holiday services by sharing your ritual skills with the congregation, please complete the "High Holiday Participation Form" in this issue of the *Forward* and send it to the office by July 17.

Come Blow Your Shofar

CSZ's "Shofar Blower Par Excellence," Marion Trentman, is once again happy to offer her "How to Sound the Shofar" class to interested synagogue members. The first class will be held in the CSZ library at 7:30pm on Monday, July 6, and five more classes will be scheduled before the High Holidays. Whether you have never been able to get a sound out of it, or whether you have had some experience but need to perfect your tone and coordination with other players—if you've always *wanted* to sound the Shofar, this is the class for you.

Traditionally, the Shofar has been sounded by men in most congregations. We'd especially encourage the women of CSZ to cultivate their shofar-sounding talents and join the class in order to help "balance the *bima*" with men and women shofar blowers alike. Partake in the *mitzvah* of sounding the Shofar. For further information and to register, call Marion Trentman, 510/837-1179.

How To Help

There are so many joyful ways to get involved throughout the High Holidays. Ritual participation is certainly one, but volunteers are also critical for ushering, oneg preparation, child care assistance, signage production, and telephone networking. Please let us know how you'd like to share your energy and time. Contact either Carolyn Pines (510/532-9661) or Larry Wexler (510/523-6775).

Service Schedule

Clip and attach to your refrigerator

All services will be held at the Unitarian Center (1187 Franklin at Geary) unless otherwise noted.

Selichot

Saturday, September 19, 9 pm,
at CSZ

Rosh Hashanah

Evening

Sunday, September 27, 7:30 pm

First Day

Monday, September 28,
Shacharit, Musaf, and
Children's Service, 10 am

Tashlich

Monday, September 28, 3 pm at
Fort Point

Second Day

Tuesday, September 29, 10 am
at CSZ

Shabbat Shuvah

Evening

Friday, October 2, 8:15 pm at
CSZ

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre

Tuesday, October 6, 7:30 pm

Morning

Wednesday, October 7, 10 am

Afternoon

Wednesday, October 7, 3:15 pm

Yizkor

Wednesday, October 7, 5 pm

Concluding

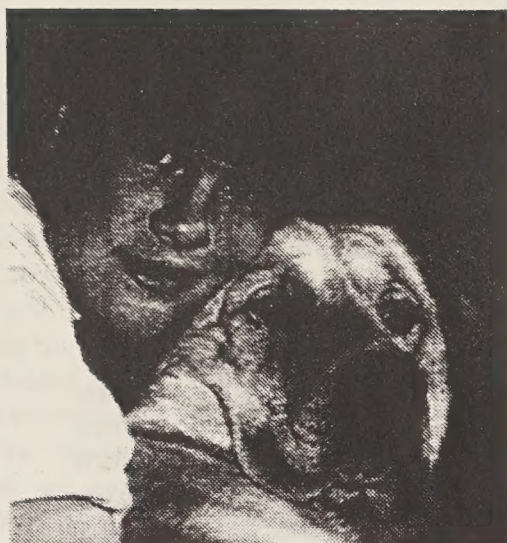
Wednesday, October 7, 6:30 pm

Be sure to check next month's *Forward* for details about Sukkot (October 11) and Simchat Torah (October 18).

Dr. Diane Sabin

CHIROPRACTOR

281 Noe (at Market), San Francisco, CA 94114 415/252-5500



Katye and Champ.

Katye Gulley, Bat Mitzvah, June 20

Our congregation will celebrate another milestone when Katye Gulley is called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on June 20. While this is not the congregation's first bar/bat mitzvah, it is the first for a student who has studied and prepared through our Kadimah religious school and by working closely with members and our rabbi. CSZ member Daniel Chesir has been coaching Katye in preparation for her bat mitzvah over the course of this school year. Many members have seen Katye co-lead Friday evening services in preparation. The entire congregation is invited to join Katye, her mother, Roslyn Fuerman, and their family at the service on Saturday morning, June 20, at the synagogue.

Katye is almost 13. She currently spends most of her time studying for her bat mitzvah. In her free time, "she likes to play basketball, swim, surf, shop, and hang out with friends." Katye goes to Martin Luther King Junior High School in Berkeley and is in the seventh grade. She has a dog named Champ and a cat named Rosie.

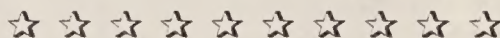
Seattle Conference

The First International Conference on Judaism-Feminism-Psychology, "Creating a Shelter in the Wilderness" will be held in Seattle, Wash. October 29 through November 1. It is sponsored by the Association for Women in Psychology Jewish Women's Caucus. If you would like more information, write to Kayle Weiner, 600 First Avenue, #530, Seattle, Washington 98104 or call 206/343-0828.



Birthdays

- 1 Cheryl Mann
- 1 Donald Abrams
- 2 Nina Wouk
- 2 Lisa Feldstein
- 3 David Hyman
- 6 Marsha Blachman
- 7 Marianne Camp
- 7 Amy Weston
- 9 Allyce Kimerling
- 9 Malia Lewis
- 10 Claudia Bernard
- 10 Daniel Chesir
- 11 Annie Winters
- 13 Sunny Schwartz
- 15 Beverly Hewett
- 15 Steven Wiesner
- 18 Jason Gaber
- 20 Leslie Caplan
- 22 Margaret Rossoff
- 24 Howard Goldberg
- 24 Paul Schwartz
- 26 Marc Lipschutz
- 26 Jonathan Mesinger
- 29 Eve Meyer



Oneg Sponsors

These generous people were recent sponsors of onegs:

- 5/8 Grace Laurencin, in honor of her official conversion to Judaism
- 5/15 Lane Schickler, commemorating the yahrzeit of his lover and CSZ member Jim Perkins
- 5/22 CSZ, honoring Scott Mezistrano for his outstanding service to CSZ, and wishing him good luck in Washington, DC
- 5/29 CSZ, in honor of members' birthdays and anniversaries celebrated in May

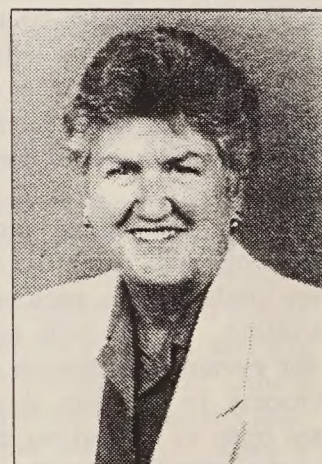
All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. For cosponsoring—in honor of a member's birthday or anniversary—the cost is only \$10.

You can also add a more personal touch by providing flowers (for the bima or oneg room) or special food to celebrate your occasion.

"I Start by Listening"

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or investment
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Free consultation.
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Call **Shirley Liberman**
(415) 863-7500 Ext. 123



1929 Market Street
San Francisco

Discount or referral fee to CSZ members



1993 CSZ Trip

Sixteen CSZ members attended the April 29 Israel Trip planning meeting. Enthusiasm is building for our tour which is to run from May 4 through May 15, 1993. The 11-night, 12-day trip is currently estimated to cost \$2,450. This includes round-trip airfare SFO-Tel Aviv, accommodations, daily breakfast and four dinners, transfers and sightseeing. Those attending the April 29-May 3, 1993 International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews in London and continuing on to Israel will add approximately \$175 for air fare. Deposits will be required by October 1, so start saving your shekels now.

The Israel Trip steering committee consists of Jeff Davidson, Dvora Honigstein, Rabbi Kahn, Betty Kalis, Ron Lezell, Marion Trentman, and Nina Raff. The next planning meeting (open to anyone considering going on the trip) will be Wednesday, July 1, 7:30 pm at the synagogue. Sam Thal will show his slides from Israel beginning promptly at 7:30. More details of the tour will appear in future issues of the *Forward*.

IRAC Small Claims Kits

The Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC) has developed a telephone hotline which assists a broad cross-section of the Jerusalem-area population on social and religious rights issues. Native Israelis are not the only ones turning to the Hotline for help with job discrimination cases, or faulty bills from public utilities, for example. Immigrants from Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union, as well as Arab residents of Jerusalem and the territories, have also learned to turn to the IRAC Hotline with their own unique problems. In this way, IRAC teaches Israeli society that social action is an essential component of the Jewish religion.

One of the recent projects of the Hotline will help all Israelis who find themselves having to resort to the Israeli Small Claims Court. After a few years of assisting people with dealing with the bewildering regulations of this Court, the Hotline put together a "Small Claims Kit" consisting of an audio cassette tape and a small illustrated instruction booklet on how to follow the

Synagogue Information	
Rabbi Yoel Kahn (861-6932)	Va'ad (Board) Members:
Officers:	Phil Charney
<i>President</i> , Allan Gold (929-9524)	Daniel Chesir
<i>Administrative Vice President</i> , Claudia Bernard	Steve Elman
<i>Program Vice President</i> , Tiela Chalmers	Gail Friedlander
<i>Treasurer</i> , Brett Trueman	Lisa Katz
<i>Recorder</i> , Kathy Simon	Ida Kuluk
	Nathan Robinson
	Judy Schwartz
	Susan Unger
Office Personnel:	<i>Education</i> , Don Albert (acting)
<i>Manager</i> , Mark Pressler	<i>Finance</i> , Pam Schaffer
<i>Secretary</i> , Jim Cotant	<i>Gift Shop</i> , Jeff Rubin
Committee Chairs:	<i>Israel Chavurah</i> , Ron Lezell
<i>Archivist</i> , open	<i>Long-Range Planning</i> , Tiela Chalmers
<i>Bequests and Donations</i> , Pam Schaffer	<i>Membership</i> , Judy Schwartz
<i>Bikkur Cholim</i> , by committee	<i>Newsletter</i> , Lane Schickler
<i>Brotherhood</i> , Phil Charney	<i>Oneg</i> , Donna Rabinowitz
<i>Building</i> , Ellen Gierson	<i>Past Presidents Council</i> , Don Albert
<i>Bylaws</i> , Edward Pollock	<i>Personnel</i> , Claudia Bernard
<i>Cemetery</i> , Richard Inlander	<i>Public Relations</i> , Sharyn Saslasky
<i>Children's Chavurah</i> , Audrey Adelson & Joan Lefkowitz	<i>Religious School</i> , Mary Morgan
<i>Cookbook Project</i> , Robin Leonard	<i>Ritual</i> , Larry Wexler
<i>Dues</i> , David Stein & Ron Lezell	<i>Social Action</i> , Susan Foster
	<i>Social Program</i> , by committee
	<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i> , Robin Leonard
	<i>Women's Chavurah</i> , Susan Tubbesing
Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.	
Office Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 am to 4 pm. Rabbi's office hours by appointment. Please call the synagogue office at (415) 861-6932.	Library Hours: Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.
Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.	Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Allyce Kimerling, Liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Eric Cooper-Keitel, Liaison).
Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.	Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.
Gift Shop Hours: Fridays, 7:30-8:05 pm	

Court's rules and regulations. As soon as these kits became available to the public, the Center was showered with calls from all over Israel with purchase requests.

You can support IRAC's work by joining the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA), which created and finances the Center. For more information, contact CSZ's ARZA Chairperson, Ron Lezell at 626-5748.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members in April. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Ben Weinberg
Ilana Bernstein

Michelle Auerbach & David Brook

JUNE

חַיִּיר-סִיוֵן

1 Monday 29 Iyar • 6pm, Healing Service	9 Tuesday 8 Sivan • 6pm, <i>To Spark a Fire</i> benefit, 3650 21st • 8:30pm, benefit moves to the Box, 628 Divisadero	17 Wednesday 16 Sivan	23 Tuesday 22 Sivan
2 Tuesday 1 Sivan	10 Wednesday 9 Sivan • 7:30pm, Newsletter editing meeting, CSZ	18 Thursday 17 Sivan • 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim	24 Wednesday 23 Sivan
3 Wednesday 2 Sivan • 7pm, Social Action, CSZ	11 Thursday 10 Sivan	19 Friday 18 Sivan • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services—Installation of Officers	25 Thursday 24 Sivan • 6:30pm, Ritual Committee
4 Thursday 3 Sivan • 7:30pm, Children's Education	12 Friday 11 Sivan • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services	20 Saturday 19 Sivan • 10:30am, Katye Gulley Bat Mitzvah • 7pm, Women's Chavurah Havdalah Potluck, 1400 McGee, Berkeley	26 Friday 25 Sivan • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services—Shabbat Freedom
5 Friday 4 Sivan • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services	13 Saturday 12 Sivan	21 Sunday 20 Sivan • 11am, Newsletter final pasteup, CSZ	27 Saturday 26 Sivan • 10:30am, Shabbat Services
6 Saturday 5 Sivan Shavuot • 8pm, Shavuot, All-Night Tikkun	14 Sunday 13 Sivan	22 Monday 21 Sivan • 6pm, Healing Service	28 Sunday 27 Sivan • 11am, Gay Pride Parade • 3:30pm, Post-parade dessert at Kaiser Hospital
7 Sunday 6 Sivan	15 Monday 14 Sivan • 6pm, Healing Service	29 Monday 28 Sivan • 6pm, Healing Service	30 Tuesday 29 Sivan
8 Monday 7 Sivan • 6pm, Healing Service • 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting	16 Tuesday 15 Sivan • 7pm, Newsletter proofreading and layout meeting, CSZ	<i>Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.</i>	

Leadership

Interested in learning leadership skills at Sha'ar Zahav? The Leadership Development Committee has designed a four-session class covering history, governance, process and leadership skills. This class will begin in July. Please contact Mark in the office to indicate your interest and a member of the committee will contact you.

Advance Facilities

For many years, our annual leadership advance has been held one week-end each summer at Wildwood Resort in Sonoma County. While we are not *exactly* looking to move on, we are interested in looking at other facilities and comparing cost, amenities, and the like. If you are familiar with any facilities that host weekend conferences, please call the office with your recommendations.

No East Bay Services

East Bay services will be suspended this month due to the annual installation of officers on June 19. East Bay services will resume in July.

Condolences

To Leslie Begson, on the death of her lover, Nanci Stern.

To Phyllis Mintzer, on the death of her mother, Harriet Opal.

High Holiday Services Participation Form

We at CSZ try to provide an opportunity for each member to participate in High Holiday services. There will be Hebrew chants, readings in English, and shofar-blowing opportunities for the various services. Only members who return this form to the synagogue office by **Friday, July 17** can be assured an opportunity to participate.

Shofar class alert!

If you are interested in blowing the shofar at High Holiday services, in addition to sending in this form, also call Marion Trentman at (510) 837-1179 for details on the shofar blowing class.

Return this form to:

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
220 Danvers Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

Deadline

This form must be returned no later than Friday, July 17

Name _____

Phone number(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- ☐ I would like to learn a Hebrew chant
- ☐ I can read Hebrew well
- ☐ I can chant from the Torah
- ☐ I would like to blow the shofar (*see important note at left*)

I will be at the following services:

- ☐ All services

Rosh Hashanah

- ☐ Sunday evening (Ma'ariv), Sept. 27
- ☐ Monday morning (Shacharit and Musaf), Sept. 28
- ☐ Monday morning (Children's Services), Sept. 28

Yom Kippur

- ☐ Tuesday evening (Kol Nidre), Oct. 6
- ☐ Wednesday morning (Shacharit and Musaf), Oct. 7
- ☐ Wednesday morning (Children's Services), Oct. 7
- ☐ Wednesday late afternoon (Yizkor and Neilah), Oct. 7

I would prefer a reading at _____

We will try to accommodate preferences as much as possible.

Parts will be mailed the week of August 2.

There will be practice sessions following services on Friday, September 11 and Friday, September 18 for anyone who wants to practice a part. You are required to attend at least one session if you are chanting a prayer or a portion from the Torah.

